Dear Paul,

5/22/04

When I wrote you a while back about the field offices case appeal you wanted to do something and I said I believe it best that we remain/silent. The briefs were filed six days ago, there has not been any mention of them in the papers or anywhere else of which I know, so I still believe we ought say nothing and I'm not.

The ACLU foundation represents me and the Public Citizen Litigation Group represents Jim. I've read the draft of the brief for Jim and the draft and filed copies of the brief for me and as legal documents they are fine. Neither, however, in any way addresses the assassination, its investigation or any specific records or withholdings, etc. They are lucid legal arguments only. Understated ones at that, without even the nature of the precedents or the jeopardy of counsel being spelled out.

So far as I am concerned, I'd rather have anything that comes out come from our lawyers and that way they'll have no cause for complaint or feeling they have if they make none. I really see nothing to be gained by any attention now. Or until they want it. Then it will mean more coming from them.

If anything appears I'll send you a copy.

I gather than Jim has a good feeling about their work for us. We've not discussed it in detail.

Phil Melanson is coming here Friday but I think interested in only a fascinating aspect of the Ray case, those aliases. He's not indicated more.

Best wishes,